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TITLE: Published HIV/AIDS Information - A Knowledge Base for Service Providers at the Community Level

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ISSUE: Program managers and their staff need published information to provide effective and efficient service to their clientele. There is a wealth of information available but there needs to be some coordination and promotion of these resources in order for maximum use to be made of them. Programs are being funded to provide varying services to the community but those executing the services need to have the basic tool of **current and relevant information** with which to do an efficient an effective job.

SETTING: The presentation will focus on *The HIV Resource Library* and its role in acting as a gateway and distributor of information resources to staff and clients of community based organizations that are located throughout the five boroughs of New York City. [Statistics available]

PROJECT: The goal of the library is to provide up-to-date, relevant published information to the publicly-funded community based organizations to assist staff members in executing their services in the best way possible, in order to improve the quality of life and extend life expectancy of those persons already infected and to educate on the HIV transmission in order to reduce the seroprevalence. The presentation includes description of public relations and publicity projects; description of funding sources: NYC DOH, NYS DOH, Federal funding through Ryan White CARE Services; description of interaction with community groups such as HIVCARE? Network meetings, community based organizations [CBOs] staff meetings, conferences, Health Fairs, symposia, etc.

Description of a sample of the best resources: **PRINT SOURCES: BOOKS; PERIODICALS; EDUCATIONAL BROCHURES; SPECUL INFORMATION PACKETS; ELECTRONIC SOURCES: CD-ROM Bibliographic databases, Full text databases; ONLINE DATABASES; WEB SITES: General medical; HIV/AIDS; International; Spanish language; Other relevant sites.**

[A special study was carried out to ascertain how material received from or through the library was used, factors such as dissemination and to whom, whether any repackaging was done for dissemination, etc. Results of 1998 study.]

CONCLUSION: The published information resources which are available are tools to used by programs managers of publicly-funded community agencies to assist them in executing their services in an efficient an effective manner.

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